

BISHOP AUCKLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.



A N N U A L R E P O R T

F O R

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Health Department,
Town Hall,
Bishop Auckland.

BISHOP AUCKLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT 1950.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following report for 1950.

Area and Social Conditions.

The area of the district is 9,336 acres. The estimated population in mid 1950 was 36,510, an increase of 440 on the previous year's estimate.

The rateable value is £150,903 and the product of a penny rate £555.

The number of occupied houses, according to the Council's rates records, was 10,507 at the end of 1950.

VITAL STATISTICS.

In the following extracts from the district's vital statistics the corrected figures as supplied by the Registrar General have been used and the rates quoted are based on the above mentioned estimated population.

Live Births.	Total	Males	Females.
Legitimate.	624	306	318
Illegitimate.	32	17	15
TOTAL.	656	323	333

The live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 17.96, the lowest recorded since 1943. It is however higher than the birth rate for England and Wales which in 1950 was 15.8.

Still Births.	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate.	14	8	6
Illegitimate.	---	---	---
TOTAL	14	8	6

Rate per 1,000 live and still births 20.90

Rate per 1,000 of estimated population 0.38

The still birth rate for England and Wales in 1950 was 0.37

DEATHS.

On correction for outwardly and inwardly transferable deaths, 253 deaths of male and 193 deaths of female residents occurred during the year, giving a death rate for the year of 12.22 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This rate is slightly higher than that for the country as a whole but is considerably below the district's mean death rate for the previous ten years (13.57). Only one death was registered during the year as a death from puerperal cause.

Deaths of infants under one year of age.

Twelve male and eleven female infants died before reaching one year of age.

Mortality rate all infants per 1,000 live births.	35.06
Mortality rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	33.48
Mortality rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	34.38.

The district's infant mortality rate was slightly higher in the year under review than in the rate recorded for the previous year which at 33.1 was the lowest infant mortality rate ever recorded in this district. The corresponding rate for England and Walos in 1950 was 29.8.

The following table gives the number of deaths from various causes during the year.

Causes of Doath.	M	F	Total.
Cancer.	35	17	52
Leukaemia.	2	0	2
Diabetes.	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	30	37	67
Coronary Disease, Angina.	28	17	45
Hypertension with heart disease.	12	4	16
Other hoart disease.	46	47	93
Other circulatory diseases.	6	8	14
Pneumonia.	9	11	20
Bronchitis.	18	5	23
Other respiratory diseases.	1	1	2
Gastric or duodenal ulcer.	0	0	0
Gastritis and enteritis.	3	2	5
Nephritis.	3	4	7
Congenital malformations.	1	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents.	4	2	6
All other accidents.	9	5	14
Suicide.	6	1	7
Tuberculosis (All forms).	10	9	19
Influenza.	4	4	8
Other infectious diseases.	1	3	4
All other causes than those specified above.	24	14	38
TOTAL.	253	193	446

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases notified and the deaths from the various notifiable infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) which occurred among the district's residents during the year.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Total No. of cases after corrected diagnosis.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	135	133	109	--
Smallpox.	--	--	--	--
Diphtheria.	3	--	3	--
Enteric Fever.	--	--	--	--
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	3	3	2	--
Pneumonia.	24	24	3	20
Puerperal Pyrexia.	--	--	--	--
Measles.	772	770	5	2
Whooping Cough.	184	183	5	1
Erysipelas.	7	7	1	--
Dysentery.	15	12	13	--
Acute Poliomyelitis.	7	1	7	--
Acute Encephalitis.	--	--	--	--
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	2	2	--	--
Food Poisoning.	2	2	1	--

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows, in arrangement by age groups, the number of new cases notified and of deaths from tuberculosis occurring in the district during the year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	2
5 -	2	4	2	2	-	-	-	-
15 -	4	10	-	1	1	1	1	1
25 -	1	12	-	2	-	2	-	1
35 -	5	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 -	5	2	1	-	3	1	-	-
55 -	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-
65 and over.	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Age unknown.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.								
1950.	22	32	3	8	9	5	1	4
1949.	17	21	7	6	12	9	1	2
1948.	25	24	6	10	11	11	2	1
1947.	13	27	7	14	11	12	3	3
1946.	34	15	19	15	11	11	1	1
1945.	24	20	20	7	15	9	5	6
1944.	18	20	11	12	7	10	2	3

SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Immunisation against Diphthoria.

According to returns received from the County Medical Officer of Health, 500 children resident in this urban district received full courses of immunisation treatment and 180 children who had been treated in infancy received "booster" doses of immunising agent.

The detail of the local treatments recorded is as follows:-

Infants under 5 years of age.	455
Children over 5 years of age.	45
Booster doses to children who had already received a full course of treatment.	100

The year's total of 600 immunisation treatments shows a gratifying increase on the total recorded for the preceding year, viz, 348.

(b) Rodent Control.

During the year under review the Council's rodent operator dealt with a total of 158 infestations of rats. Of these infestations 34 were on Council's properties (refuse tips, sewage disposal works, recreation grounds, etc.), 28 were on privately owned premises which were serviced at the cost of the owners or occupiers, and 96 were on premises, mainly dwelling houses, serviced on block control free of charge.

The total estimated kill was 5,307 rats, 1,590 on Council properties, 745 on private premises, and 2,972 on premises serviced in block control. The above mentioned estimated kill does not include any estimate of rats killed by the two control operations conducted in the Council's sewers during the year.

(c) Food Inspection.

Meat. During the year your two Sanitary Inspectors continued the inspection of carcasses at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bishop Auckland. The following is a summary of their inspections during 1950.

	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number slaughtered.	4893	543	14324	119
Number inspected.	4670	514	14125	116
All diseases except Tuberculosis.				
Whole carcasses condemned.	24	4	33	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	138	2	36	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	3.49	1.17	0.49	5.17
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	42	1	-----	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	29	---	-----	3
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	1.52	0.19	-----	4.31

The total amount of carcase meat condemned during the year was 17 tons 12 cwts 2 qrs 20 lbs, and the butchers' offal condemned totalled 15 tons 7 cwts 2 qrs 5 lbs.

Other Food Stuff.

A total of 1 ton 0 cwts 1 qr 9½ lbs of tinned food and a further 1 ton 14 cwts 0 qr 10½ lbs of packed or bottled food plus 312 lots of assorted food stuff (in jars, packets, bottles, etc.) were condemned during the year as unfit for use.

All the condemned food above mentioned was voluntarily surrendered. In no case was seizure necessary nor was there any prosecution for the sale or exposure for sale of unsound food.

(d) Conversion to Water Carriage.

During the year under review a total of 241 closets of the conservancy type were converted to the water carriage system. These conversions were effected on application of owners under terms of Section 47 (4) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council paying a grant of £7.10. 0 towards the cost of each conversion.

At the end of 1950 the various types of closets in the district was as follows:-

Water Closets.	7492
Ashclosets.	4383
Ashpit Privies.	225

(e) General Housing Repairs.

The following is a summary of the repairs effected in the district during the year as a result of informal and formal notices.

Public Health Act, 1936.	No. of informal notices.	No. of formal notices by order of the Council.	No. of nuisances abated and housing defects remedied.
Dwelling) Structural defects			
Houses.) or Foul conditions.	525	37	471
Cowsheds.	2	1	2
Ashpits and Privies.	149	--	138
Deposits of refuse.	9	--	8
Water closets.	9	3	12
Defective drains.	105	1	109
Animals improperly kept.	2	--	2
Other nuisances.	127	5	148

NEW HOUSES.

During the year a total of 63 new houses were built in the district. Of these 47 were Council houses and 16 were built by private enterprise. Two large houses in the district were altered so as to provide four separate dwellings instead of two.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING.

As local licensing officer on behalf of the Ministry of Works in respect of repairs and alterations to dwelling houses I issued during the year a total of thirty seven licences involving repairs and improvements costing a total of £10,119.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 147 of these on the district's register, of which 20 are factories in respect of which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of the Act are enforceable by the local authority. During the year 53 inspections of factories or workshops were made by your Sanitary Inspectors resulting in the discovery of 14 defects, 12 of which were remedied during the year as a result of informal notice.

I append a series of tables showing comparisons in vital statistics and in the incidence of infectious diseases during the past ten years.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H.G. DONALD,

Medical Officer of Health.

APPENDIX. - Comparisons in Vital Statistics etc., during the years 1941 - 1950.

VITAL STATISTICS.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Birth Rate.	17.2	16.2	18.8	20.5	20.3	22.6	25.6	21.5	20.9	17.9
Death Rate.	12.7	12.7	14.5	13.9	14.4	13.5	14.7	12.8	11.7	12.2
Infant Mortality Rate.	63.3	65.3	81.6	62.9	59.1	54.2	49.1	50.5	33.1	35.0

Infectious Diseases - NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	2	6	6
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	8	9	-	4	-	2	3	3	-	3
Diphtheria.	119	86	-	29	1	12	3	7	2	-
Dysentery.	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	6	-
Encephalitis Lethargica.	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Enteric Fever.	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	7	10	-	10	-	13	8	-	3	7
Measles.	83	220	1	22	10	54	289	10	343	770
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	6	3	-	3	1	2	1	-	-	2
Pneumonia.	24	39	18	24	13	19	11	8	7	24
Puerperal Pyrexia.	2	8	-	16	3	14	25	16	7	19
Scarlet Fever.	99	80	-	75	53	41	68	91	89	133
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	217	70	1	19	124	113	120	53	105	183
TOTALS.	571	525	24	188	20	261	517	460	568	1140

TUBERCULOSIS
NEW CASES NOTIFIED.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Pulmonary Cases	33	39	32	38	44	49	40	49	38	54
Non Pulmonary Cases.	17	17	28	23	27	34	21	16	13	11



